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FLOOR DEBATE

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some recent research which members may not be aware of. They have discovered that serious drinking by teenagers causes permanent brain damage. In autopsy, the damage is so clear that it can be seen by the naked eye. Now I hope that, on behalf of teenagers, we would be willing to take a statement to protect teenagers, or at least to warn them, of damage, permanent damage, to their brain. But if we're not willing to do that, then we ought to care about ourselves and the public budget down the road, 10, 15 years, when we're going to be appropriating millions of dollars to help take care of some persons because they have a reduced mental capacity. I urge that we get back to the subject of dealing with the teenagers' request that we state clearly our public policy.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I listen to all these rationalizations and they don't make sense and they have no connection whatsoever with the real world. Some people spend their whole life in a protected environment where they have an income, where they have people taking care of them. They don't have to worry for anything. And then they are the ones who want to put punishments on other people. Maybe it's because of some of that guilt about the easy life they had and so they are doing what the psychiatrist said that the hang-hards and the punishers do in order to purge their own conscience of the sense of wrongfulness in their own life. This bill is going to be hard to get through this Legislature and I'm the reason that it's so hard. And for those who just got here, they need to know that I'm not going to be deterred and I'm not going to stop. And I'm not going to watch the young people run over, even if they are not able to speak for themselves. What some people who don't read and don't pay attention to history aren't aware of is that people who worked in sweatshops, people who worked in coal mines, people who picked cotton, people who were tenant farmers, who were sharecroppers, knew something was not right but they didn't think there was any way to correct it, and some people thought this is the way life is supposed to be. So what happened? People who became known as labor agitators came among these people, not ministers, the ministers were being taken care of. People who had worked, who had relatives who